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# Mbukushu language

**Mbukushu** or **Thimbukushu** is a Bantu language spoken by 45,000 people along the Okavango River in Namibia, where it is a national language and in Botswana, Angola and Zambia.

Mbukushu is one of several Bantu languages of the Okavango which have click consonants. Mbukushu has three: tenuis *c*, voiced *gc*, and nasalized *nc*, as well as prenasalized *ngc*, which vary between speakers as dental, palatal, and postalveolar *(The Bantu Languages*, 2003:37). It also has a nasal glottal approximant.

| Mbukushu | |
|---|---|
| Thimbukushu | |
| **Native to** | Namibia, Angola, Botswana, Zambia |
| **Region** | Okavango River |
| **Native speakers** | 49,710 (2018)[1] |
| **Language family** | Niger–Congo<br>▪ Atlantic–Congo<br>▪ Benue–Congo<br>▪ Southern Bantoid<br>▪ Bantu (Zone K)<br>▪ **Mbukushu** |
| **Language codes** | |
| **ISO 639-3** | `mhw` |
| **Glottolog** | `mbuk1240 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/mbuk1240)`[2] |
| **Guthrie code** | `K.333` [3][4] |

## References


1. "Mbukushu" (https://www.ethnologue.com/language/mhw). *Ethnologue*. Retrieved 15 August 2018.
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Mbukushu" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/mbuk1240). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Simons, Gary F. and Charles D. Fennig (eds.). 2018. Ethnologue: Languages of the World, Twenty-first edition. Dallas, Texas: SIL International. Online version: http://www.ethnologue.com.
4. Jouni Filip Maho, 2009. New Updated Guthrie List Online (https://web.archive.org/web/20180203191542/http://goto.glocalnet.net/mahopapers/nuglonline.pdf)


## External links

- Mbukushu sound files at UCLA (http://archive.phonetics.ucla.edu/Language/MHW/mhw.html)


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